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REPORT

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NORTHWEST AND NORTHEAST ANNOUNCE 1950 HIGHWAY AND RR WORK PLANS

NORTHWEST TO EXPAND COMMUNICATIONS -- Hong Kong Wen-hui Pao, 31 Mar 50

Sian, 29 March -- The 1950 railroad, highway, and telecommunication construction programs for the Northwest China region were announced by the Communication Department of the Northwest Military Control Commission, as follows:

Lung-Hai Railroad -- Repair section between T'ung-kuan $\begin{bmatrix} 34 & 40 & N, & 110 & 09 & E \end{bmatrix}$ and Pao-chi, and the Hsien-yang--T'ung-ch'uan $\begin{bmatrix} \text{Formerly T'ung-kuan, } 35 & 01 & N, \\ 109 & 07 & E \end{bmatrix}$ branch line; reconstruct section between Pao-chi and T'ien-shui; build roadbed from T'ien-shui to Lurg-hsi and on to Lan-chou; and survey proposed route from Lan-chou to Wu-wei.

Highways -- Improve the national highway from Sian, through Lan-chou and Sinkiang Province, to Khorgos on the USSR-Sinkiang border; and repair the highway from Hua-chia-ling in Kansu to Shuang-shih-p'u in Shensi, and the Shensi-Szechwan highway.

Postal service -- Establish motor postal routes between Ning-hsia and Pao-t'ou. In Sinkiang, establish postal routes from Wu-su east to Urumchi and north to Chuguchak, and from Kucha east to Turfan and west to I-erh-k'o-shih-t'an-mu through Kashgar.

Telecommunications -- Repair double telephone lines between P'ing-liang and Lan-chou, and improve telephone service between Urumchi and Kuldja.

NORTHEAST HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT PLANS WORK -- Canton Nan-fang Jih-pao, 17 Mar 50

Mukden, 15 March (Hsin-hua) -- The Northeast government's Highway Department has learned much from the mistakes of 1949 which will enable them to plan more wisely their work on the highways for 1950. Their 1950 program includes the following:

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1. Preference and priority is to be given to the construction and repair of the most important roads, such as two national highways which serve military needs, roads which connect urban and rural areas, and the repair of bridges and tunnels.
2. Seven teams are being sent out to survey the highways with special attention given to points where relocation is desirable. Two engineering teams are to specialize on surveys for permanent bridges.
3. Formulation of plans for 1950 highway work must be completed by the end of March 1950.
4. Plans are to provide for the optimum use of heavy road-building machinery.
5. Demarcation of areas and assignment of responsibility for control and finances is to be effected between the regional, provincial, hsien, and local governments.
6. A system of local organization of repair gangs responsible for maintenance by sections is to be effected, with emphasis on the principle of expeditious attention to emergency repairs as occasion requires.
7. Traffic regulations to preserve the smoothness of road surfaces are to be enforced.
8. Transportation of freight and passengers on prescribed routes by both publicly and privately owned vehicles, under the unified operating direction of a joint company of the national and provincial governments, is to be inaugurated.

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